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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Parchim

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 14 and 16 December 1951

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 25 January 1952

REFERENCES

2

PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

1. On 16 December 1951, the Alte Kaserne on Karl Marx Strasse, Parchim (M 54/T 74) quartered about 1,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. Soldiers were seen practicing with four 80-mm mortars in the training area adjoining the installation. Twelve apartment houses, each containing from 4 to 8 apartments and situated south of the installation, had been made part of the billeting area. No vehicular traffic was noticed.

2. On 16 December, the Neue Kaserne on Karl Marx Strasse was occupied somewhat below capacity by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery or tank insignia. A large number of troops were seen walking through the barracks gate and included a disproportionately large number of officers and also some uniformed women. A model 38 122-mm field howitzer was seen standing in the barracks yard, and an armored track-laying vehicle in an open shed. About 100 soldiers were seen practicing with 12 model 38 120-mm mortars in the training area adjoining the installation to the southwest.

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3. On 14 December, numerous empty trucks were seen entering the municipal Home for the Aged on Stalin Allee. They hauled away vegetables or straw.

4. On 14 December, the Neue Heimat settlement, southeast of the old cemetery, was occupied below capacity by from 300 to 400 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Source did not notice any facilities capable of sheltering heavy weapons. There was no vehicular traffic. \*\*

\* Comment. As the Alte Kaserne and the Neue Kaserne constitute one collective billeting area, it is difficult to determine the exact location of a unit in either installation by means of visual observation alone. Prior to the 1951 summer exercises, the installation quartered the unidentified medium tank regiment and the 60th Lecz Regt, both of the 18th Lecz Div, which was confirmed by another source.

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The present report is indicative only of one mechanized regiment, but fails to give clues as to the present location of the medium tank regiment carried there. A report of late November 1951 by another source contained a vague indication that the regiment might now be stationed in Ludwigslust.

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CLASSIFICATION

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The 120-mm artillery pieces and 12 x 120-mm mortars mentioned in the reference report confirm the 1054th How Arty Bgt of the 18th Mecz Div in Ludwigslust and indicate that the division's unidentified mortar regiment may also be stationed at the post. It is therefore impossible to account for the 12 mortars mentioned in paragraph 2 of the present report, because they exceed the T/E of a mechanized regiment. Nor can the 122-mm artillery pieces be accounted for. The vehicles mentioned in the present report belong to the 18th Mecz Div, to the headquarters and headquarters units of the IX

Mtz Rifle Corps, and to an unidentified AAA unit in the Neue Heimat settlement.

25X1A \*\* [ ] Comment. As before the 1951 summer exercises, the Neue Heimat settlement is still believed to quarter an unidentified AAA unit. [ ]

In a report of October 1951, another source stated that the Alte Kaserne, Parchim, quartered an AAA unit, elements of which were allegedly located in the Hone for the Aged and in the Neue Heimat settlement. [ ]

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